

We wish all A Merry Christmas & Happy New
DECEMBER-1934 Year.

RECKLESS RALPH'S

36

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

Official Organ Happy Hours Brotherhood

M. E. MARSH

Introducing myself to the members of the Happy Hours Brotherhood and readers of the Dime Novel Round-Up, and in explanation as to how I became interested in collecting of novels for a hobby, I must simply lay it all to your worthy publisher and officer.

It was the first week of March, 1934, that I received an order from Brother Cummings for a supply of my printed Gummed Stickers, in which he enclosed some literature pertaining to the H.H.B. and a copy of the Round-Up, and this was the first knowledge that I had of such a hobby, and naturally we began to carry on a correspondence with the result that Reckless Ralph sent me in April the first lot of novels that started me in this most interesting of hobbies, and with this beginning of 49 novels I have continued until I now have over 900 and still going strong. At first, my idea was to get together about 200, just enough to have some to read and to show to my friends, but the idea grew on me and now it is bound to stick.

Born in Sterling, N.Y. 57 years ago, I had the good fortune to read and handle many hundreds of the old black and whites, and once had Happy Days complete, except for the very last issues, and I have many times since wished for these and all of the old novels that I once had. At that time I might have had complete files of several of the old ones.

At this time, I invite all readers and

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

collectors of Tip Top Weekly to become a member of the Tip Top Club, formed for the purpose of helping collectors of Tip Tops, to complete their files and exchange their duplicates where mostly needed.

(NOTE: The original issue carried on the front cover, a photograph of Mr. M. E. Marsh. As this is a Reprint produced by mimeograph, we cannot include the photo.)

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BLOCK HEADINGS OF PLUCK & LUCK.

Remember how we used to go into the book store and see a Pluck & Luck with it's scarlet block at the top enclosing the letters, half black and half red, or yellow, or green "Pluck & Luck" below which was the picture usually showing a robed being with a white skull for a face, or whatnot, and right away our curiosity was aroused, and we never considered 5¢ much money, but unconsciously tendered it to the clerk with one hand, while we picked up the book with the other. That same book, without a cover, we would pass by unseeing. Evidently, Wolff failed to catch on to this selling point, and the result was, his red and dark navy (almost black) for blue and brown, constituted the only colors. The whole cover seemed dead. That was why many of the boys, yes, maybe thousands, quit novels.

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HOW'S THIS?

Twenty years ago, I bought a job lot of paper books from the American News Company just before they moved into their new building. They shipped them in a piano box, probably fifteen thousand books. I think I paid them about forty dollars for the lot. I sold them in dribs and drabs at 5¢ each. Ye Gods, what a gold mine that would be today. Just a chance in a lifetime to catch a News Co. before moving. They have since moved and I suppose

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

pose someone else got them on the last move. Of course, twenty years ago, colored cover novels were not scarce, but it is a different tale today.

John Ruff.

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Too bad we can't have a real John Dillinger Weekly, dealing with John and his pals, and other such boys that live with the gun, but if we even brought out one number of such, the goody-goody Society would be on our necks, such as the Watch and Ward Society of Boston and The Committee of 14 in New York City. Anyway, Uncle Sam would not let them get through the mails.

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MEMBERS OF THE HAPPY HOURS BROTHERHOOD FOR
1934.

1. Ralph F. Cummings-Pleasant St., Grafton, Mass.
(President-H.H.B.)
2. Robert H. Smeltzer, Phila., Pa.-Vice Pres.
3. Ralph P. Smith, Box 985, Lawrence, Mass. (Adv. Bd)
4. J. Edward Leithead-Phila., Pa. (Adv. Bd.)
5. George N. Beck, Davenport, Ia.
6. W. C. Miller, San Antonio, Texas.
7. Wm. M. Burns, 15 Cottage St., Rockland, Me.
8. Lacey D. Irwin, Kane, Ill.
9. L. Morgan, Washington, D. C.
12. George French, Bloomfield, N. J.
13. Joseph Potaski, Farnumsville, Mass.
14. Wm. M. Kreling, San Francisco, Calif.
15. J. Reischmann, Chicago, Ill.
16. T. G. Mauritzen, Los Angeles, Calif.
17. Fred T. Singleton, New York, N. Y.
18. Wm. Erbe, New York City, N. Y.
21. Fred P. Pitzer, Jersey City, N. J.
22. Frank T. Fries, Orrville, Ohio.
24. James Madison, San Francisco, Calif.
25. George S. Barton, Boston, Mass.
26. W. R. Johnson, Lincoln, Nebraska.
29. Thomas J. O'Connor, North Hartland, Vt.
35. Herbert Leitstein, Brooklyn, N. Y.

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

- 36. Andrew Hanes, Jr., Garfield, N.J.
- 38. L.C. Skinner, Pawtucket, R.I.
- 39. H.O. Rawson, Worcester, Mass.
- 43. Wm. J. Benners, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 45. Raymond L. Caldwell, Lancaster, Pa.
- 46. Patrick Mulhall, Castlecomer, Ireland.
- 47. G.H. Cordier, Los Angeles, Calif.
- 48. A Friend.
- 50. J.P. Guinon, Little Rock, Ark.
- 51. Harold C. Holmes, New Haven, Conn.
- 52. Edwin M. Smith, Washington, D.C.
- 54. John T. McIntyre, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 55. Ralph F. Admare, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.
- 56. W.C. Krumbein, Chicago, Ill.
- 57. L.C. Leighter, Brockton, Mass.
- 58. M.E. Marsh, Ithaca, N.Y.
- 59. Book Exchange, Sta. A. Toledo, Ohio.
- 60. Prof. Albert Johannsen, Univ. of Chicago, Ill.
- 23. Charles H. Austin, Philadelphia, Pa.

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE H.H.B.

- 100. Richard J. Tanner, Norfolk, Nebraska.
- 101. Major G.W. Lillie, Buffalo Ranch, Pawnee,
Okla.
- 102. Emmett Dalton, Hollywood, Calif.
- 103. Col. Chas. D. Randolph, Davenport, Ia.
- 104. Victor Randolph, Princeton, Ia.
- 105. Col. B.R. Pearson, Hastings, Nebraska.
- 106. Irwin S. Cobb, New York, N.Y.
- 107. Thomas C. Grant, Deadwood, S.D.
- 108. Capt. Lute North, Columbus, Nebraska.
- 109. Gilbert Patten (Burt L. Standish), N.Y.-
N.Y.
- 110. V. Valta Parma, Curator-Rare Book Coll.-
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

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There were also a number of Ads in this issue as well as special Holiday Greetings from the publisher.